

To the State Legislature Joint Judiciary Committee:

You have an unprecedented opportunity to shape the future of cruelty law enforcement in Connecticut!

H.B. 6187—a bill to authorize the appointment of court advocates to represent the interests of animal cruelty victims during court proceedings—is under your consideration **tomorrow, April 10.**

Please approve this important humane bill!

Court advocates who can speak for animal cruelty victims and the interests of justice are long overdue. Right now, the great majority of animal cruelty cases end in dismissal or withdrawal, and even the most serious cases often result in no meaningful consequences for the offenders. The most vulnerable among us deserve a voice, which this important humane legislation will provide.

H.B. 6187 is also critical to public safety, given the strong link between violence toward animals and violence toward people. Court advocates would be able to provide the court with information on this link.

Thus please:

1. support H.B. 6187.
2. urge Judiciary Committee leadership to pass H.B. 6187 out of committee.

Sincerely,

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